

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said *Streptococcus equi* is strain 709-27 (ATCC 53186).

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said attenuated *Streptococcus equi* is in the amount of from about 10^5 to about 10^{11} Colony Forming Unit (CFU).

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said attenuated *Streptococcus equi* is in the amount of from about 10^6 to about 10^{10} Colony Forming Unit (CFU).

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said attenuated *Streptococcus equi* is in the amount of from about 10^7 to about 10^9 Colony Forming Unit (CFU).

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) A method of stimulating an immune response to *Streptococcus equi* comprising contacting cells of the nasopharyngeal mucosa of an equine with a composition comprising a live non-encapsulated attenuated *Streptococcus equi* in combination with an immunostimulant that stimulates mucosal immunity, wherein said immunostimulant is saponin, and wherein the composition provides protective immunity against *Streptococcus equi* infection following *Streptococcus equi* challenge.

24. (Previously presented) A method for preventing at least one of the symptoms associated with *Streptococcus equi* infection in equine comprising administering nasally or by mouth to said equine an effective amount of a composition comprising a live non-encapsulated attenuated *Streptococcus equi* in combination with an immunostimulant that stimulates mucosal immunity, wherein said immunostimulant is saponin, and wherein the composition is suitable for providing protective immunity against *Streptococcus equi* infection following *Streptococcus equi* challenge.